

## **Director's Report - August 2010**

### **Sunday Service**

Beginning August 15, year-round Sunday service from 1-5 p.m. (except on September 5, December 26 and April 24) will begin at the following libraries: Bethesda, Germantown, Marilyn J. Praisner, Rockville, Silver Spring and Wheaton. Both circulation and information service will be available to customers. Moving to year-round service on Sundays was a part of the strategic reconfiguration of public service hours, which is designed to reduce staffing costs by reducing the overall public service hours, while providing a convenient, relatively uniform, and geographically balanced set of service hours for library users.

### **Recent Changes in Library Policy and Fees**

Beginning July 6, changes in library policy and fees include a reduction in the number of active holds a customer can have at one time, the reinstatement of a \$2 replacement fee for lost or stolen library cards and a change in the fine limit for blocked accounts. Customers must also have a current library card account in order to use a library computer to access the Internet.

### **Update on Gaithersburg and Silver Spring Building Projects**

As many of you are aware, the Gaithersburg Library closed to the public in preparation for the renovation project in May 2010. Renovation construction for the Gaithersburg Library will begin in late fall 2010 and will take 18 to 24 months to complete.

The lease for the Gaithersburg Interim Library to be located at the Lakeforest Mall has been finalized and signed. Plans are now underway to design the layout of the interim space. Once the design plans have been finalized and approved, the project will be submitted for permitting and construction. The interim site will be 3,000 square feet and will house approximately 20,000 books and non-print items. There will be computers for catalog use but no Internet computers. Gaithersburg Library customers wishing to use computers for Internet access should go to other Montgomery County Public Library branches. The opening of the Gaithersburg Interim facility is expected in late fall 2010.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new Silver Spring Library will take place on Monday, August 30 at the new library site location on the corner of Wayne Avenue and Fenton Street. Site preparation will begin soon after the groundbreaking.

The new Silver Spring Library, designed by The Lukmire Partnership, will be a seven floor 63,000 gross square foot multi-use facility housing an art gallery, offices for a non-profit art organization and offices for the Department of Health and Human Services. The building is designed to be a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building using strategies intended to improve environmental and economic

performance. The library is expected to open in winter 2013. Detailed information about the new library is located on our webpage under “Building Projects.”

### **MCPL Online Program Survey**

Over 900 people participated in our online program survey held from June 14 – July 9, 2010. The short survey yielded quite a bit of information that will assist MCPL in planning future programs. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to share their thoughts and ideas with us.

B. Parker Hamilton  
Director